



Minutes

Crime Prevention Committee Meeting
Date: Monday 21 May 2018
Venue: Committee Room
Time: 3:30pm

Lithgow Crime Prevention Committee	
Item Number	Agenda
1	Present and Apologies
2	Previous Minutes
3	Business Arising from Previous Minutes
4	BOCSAR Quarterly Recorded Crime Statistics
5	Police Report
6	Alcohol Free Zones
7	Public Safety On Newnes Plateau
8	General Business

ITEM: 1 PRESENT AND APOLOGIES

Present: Mayor Lesslie, Councillor Coleman, Inspector Chris Sammut, Senior Constable Sue Rose, Kath Compton, Jill Cusack, Jeff Smith, Simon Schmitzer and Danny Whitty

Apologies: Clr Goodwin

Officers: Matthew Johnson

Declaration of Interests: NIL

ACTION

THAT the Welcome and Apologies and Declarations of Interest be noted.

MOVED: Jeff Smith

SECONDED: Mayor Lesslie

ITEM: 2 PREVIOUS MINUTES

SUMMARY

The previous minutes were reported to Council on 26 February 2018.

ACTION

That the reporting of the previous minutes to Council on 26 February 2018 be noted.

MOVED: Mayor Lesslie

SECONDED: Kath Compton

ITEM: 3 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

SUMMARY

3.1 Inclusion of financial and cyber security matters in the Library's Tech Savy Seniors program. The Library has advised that financial and cyber security matters are included in the Library's Tech Savy Seniors program.

3.2 Liquor Accord

The existing Lithgow Liquor accord has not met for some time. Inspector Sammut spoke about the benefits of having a functioning Liquor Accord including that they provide opportunities for keeping licensees up to date with current legislation and other trends, to share information on good practice and to identify common risks.

3.3 CCTV at Railway

Simon Schmitzer advised the Committee that additional CCTV cameras will be installed in the Railway Parade Bus Interchange in the near future.

There was further discussion on the need for additional safety measures in and around the Lithgow Railway Station including additional Help Points on

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the station concourse and Bus Interchange, and a review of lighting and CCTV coverage between the concourse and Main Street.

The Committee also recommended that because of the Railway Station and Bus Interchanges being a high crime activity area, Council write to the CEO of Sydney Trains requesting that consideration be given to sharing the existing Sydney Trains CCTV feed with Council and Police to facilitate a quick local response in emergencies.

3.4 Lighting along Barton Street to James Pde Wallerawang – The committee asked that this matter be followed up and that an assessment be undertaken of some of the trees in this location.

ACTION

That

1. That Council staff follow up the matter of lighting and public safety along Barton street to James Pde Wallerawang and that an assessment be undertaken of some of the trees in this location.
2. That Council staff contact Senior Constable Alan Beattie of Bathurst Police to discuss reactivating the Liquor Accord.
3. Council write to Mr Howard Collins, CEO of Sydney Trains, requesting that additional Help Points be installed on the station concourse and Bus Interchange and further requesting that consideration be given to sharing the existing Sydney Trains CCTV feed with Council and Police.
4. Council and Sydney Trains undertake an audit of lighting and CCTV coverage from the end of the railway concourse to the Main Street entrance.

MOVED: Mayor Lesslie

SECONDED: Danny Whitty

ITEM: 4 BOCSAR QUARTERLY RECORDED CRIME STATISTICS

SUMMARY

The latest NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research (BOCSAR) Recorded Crime Statistics Quarterly Report to December 2017 was provided for the committee's consideration.

COMMENTARY

The BOCSAR Quarterly Crime Statistics report dated December 2017 gives the following data on Lithgow.

1. Trends in recorded Criminal Incidents in Lithgow LGA for major offences over the 24 months to December 2017

There was a 50% reduction in Break and Enter Non- Dwelling offences and a 16.5% reduction in Malicious Damage to Property offences in the 24 months to December 2017. All other offences were stable.

2. **Ratio to NSW rate (per 100,000 population) of recorded criminal incidents for major offences for 12 months to December 2017.**
 - Break And Enter Dwelling offences were 1.5 times the NSW rate
 - Break And Enter Non- Dwelling offences were 1.6 times the NSW rate
3. **Actual number of recorded criminal incidents in Lithgow LGA for major offences over 12 months to December 2017 compared to the 12 months to December 2016.**

	Actual Number of Recorded Offences Lithgow	
	12 months to December 2017	12 months to December 2016
Murder	0	2
Assault (Domestic Violence Related)	99	85
Assault (Non- Domestic Violence Related)	123	125
Sexual assault	21	15
Indecent assault etc.	21	22
Break And Enter Dwelling	118	129
Break And Enter Non- Dwelling	46	92
Motor vehicle theft	41	52
Steal From Motor Vehicle	74	92
Steal from retail store	36	45
Steal From Dwelling	87	95
Fraud	138	150
Malicious Damage	264	316

ACTION

THAT

The discussion on the latest NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research (BOCSAR) Recorded Crime Statistics Quarterly Report to December 2017 be noted.

MOVED: Danny Whitty

SECONDED: Kath Compton

SUMMARY

A report was provided by the Police on local crime and Policing activities.

COMMENTARY

Domestic Violence Related Assault

Lithgow Police have achieved a 78% Legal Action Rate in relation to reported domestic violence incidents. This is above the NSW rate of 60% and reflects a zero tolerance by local Police to domestic violence.

Local rates of DV for the past three months were: February 26, March 40 and April 30.

The Chifley Command has two Domestic Violence Liaison Officers operating from Bathurst who provide a victim support role to domestic violence affected families through the court process as well as community education.

Non- Domestic Violence Related Assault

Local rates of Non- Domestic Violence Related Assault for the past three months were: February 16, March 7 and April 4.

Break and Enter Offences

Rates of Break and Enter Dwelling and Non-Dwelling Offences are down.

Malicious Damage

Local rates of Malicious Damage for the past three months were: February 23, March 21 and April 12.

Target Hardening

Inspector Sammut spoke of the importance of not leaving valuables in motor vehicles as much crime is opportunistic.

Drug Use

Inspector Sammut advised that drug use does occur, but Lithgow doesn't have a big drug problem.

ACTION

THAT

The Police Report be noted.

MOVED: Inspector Sammut

SECONDED: Simon Schmitzer

SUMMARY

The Committee discussed the current Alcohol Free Zones across the LGA

COMMENTARY

The current Alcohol Free Zones in the Lithgow, Portland and Wallerawang CBD areas are current until March 2021 and were last reviewed by Council in early 2017.

Council has powers under Sections 644 of the local Government Act 1993 to establish Alcohol Free Zones on roads, footpaths and public carparks. The establishment of an Alcohol Free Zone gives powers to the Police to seize, tip out or otherwise dispose of open containers of alcohol. The Police may also issue a warning or where a person does not cooperate with the Police, they can be charged with obstruction under Section 660 of the Local Government Act 1993.

Council may also establish Alcohol Prohibited Areas under Section 632A of the Local Government Act in public places (other than roads, footpaths and public carparks) such as parks, as for example Council has done in Queen Elizabeth Park and a number of other parks. Alcohol Prohibited Areas may operate without time limit. Offences and penalties are consistent with those that apply in Alcohol Free Zones.

Alcohol Free Zones may operate for a maximum period of 4 years after which Councils are required to consider whether they are still required or if they should be re-established for a further period.

Copies of maps are attached.

ACTION

THAT

The discussion on Alcohol Free Zones be noted.

MOVED: Jeff Smith

SECONDED: Simon Schmitzer

ITEM: 7 PUBLIC SAFETY ON NEWNES PLATEAU

SUMMARY

The committee discussed public safety issues on Newnes Plateau

COMMENTARY

Inspector Sammut spoke about ongoing public safety concerns with unregistered vehicles and unlicensed drivers, including children, riding motor bikes and other vehicles on the plateau. Large numbers of people use the area, especially on weekends, posing a risk to themselves and other users.

The Police try to patrol the area but do not have the resources to cover the whole area.

ACTION

THAT

The Police and Council issue a joint media release warning of the risks and of the penalties that apply to unregistered vehicles and unlicensed drivers

MOVED: Mayor Lesslie

SECONDED: Inspector Sammut

ITEM: 8 GENERAL BUSINESS

1. **Neighbourhood Watch**

In response to a question from the Committee, the Police representatives advised that none are operating in the Chifley Command District and are unsure if any are operating elsewhere.

2. **Flying of drones**

In response to a question from the Committee, it was advised that the legislation applying to the flying of drones in public places is covered by the Civil Aviation Safety Authority which specifies where drones can be flown, maximum height and prohibited areas etc.

ACTION

THAT the discussion under General Business be noted.

MOVED: Jeff Smith

SECONDED: Jill Cusack

Meeting Closed 4:50pm